

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

CARL T. JOHNSON
Chairman
E. M. LAITALA
AUGUST SCHOLLE
HILARY F. SNELL
HARRY H. WHITELEY

STATE OF MICHIGAN



WILLIAM G. MILLIKEN, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
STEVENS T. MASON BUILDING, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48926

RALPH A. MAC MULLAN, Director

4056 Plainfield Avenue, N. E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505

November 24, 1971



Stevick Landfill
P. O. Box 22
Albion, Michigan

Dear Mr. Stevick:

I understand that Mr. Hadfield of the state health department requested a letter from our agency acknowledging use of your landfill for certain centrifuged industrial wastes. Specifically, the waste in question comes from Union Steel Products, which provides chemical treatment for destruction of cyanide and treatment of metals. The metals make up the sludges as insoluble hydroxides and carbonates, etc.

In order to make it possible to take the waste to landfill sites, two centrifuges are employed to dewater the sludge to 30-40% solids. The sludge has a consistency of "toothpaste." For the past several months, this waste has been placed in a specified place on your private landfill. The location is isolated, away from the area where private parties have access for trash disposal.

We have felt the disposal of adequately treated metallic sludges in the centrifuged state to be an improvement over the hauling of wet wastes. Our observations indicate this has been satisfactory. It does place a responsibility on Union Steel Products to make sure the sludges are as dry as possible, and that the method of dumping does not make the area unusable.

We believe this is an appropriate use. The only change that might be considered would be a special area in the landfill site for this waste only. Experience would have to show that this improvement is necessary.

Very truly yours,

WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION

Chester Harvey

Chester Harvey,
Basin Engineer

CH/mc

cc: George Mathews,
Union Steel Products

